

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA

BUILD.GOV

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Rhode Island

As of July 2022

The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Rhode Island. To date, \$531.2 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Rhode Island with over 15 specific projects identified for funding. This year alone, Rhode Island will receive more than \$414 million for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$66 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 36,300 households across the state are receiving affordable internet due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Many more projects will be added in the coming months, as funding opportunities become grant awards and as formula funds become specific projects. By reaching communities all across Rhode Island – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Rhode Islanders and position the state for success.

Roads and Bridges: In Rhode Island, there are 148 bridges and over 860 miles of highway in poor condition. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will rebuild our roads and includes the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system. Based on formula funding alone, Rhode Island is expected to receive approximately \$1.8 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Rhode Island has been allocated \$290 million in highway formula funding and \$51 million in dedicated funding for bridges in 2022. In addition, Rhode Island will receive more than \$73 million through the Appalachian Highway Program in 2022.

Internet: High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 19% of Rhode Islanders do

not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Rhode Island will receive a minimum allocation of at least \$100 million to help ensure high-speed internet coverage across the state. Additionally, experts estimate that as many as 164,000 households in Rhode Island are eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which cuts internet bills by up to \$30 per month, or \$75 for households on Tribal lands, and provides a one-time \$100 discount off a connected device. The Biden-Harris Administration is providing further cost savings by working with internet providers to offer high-speed internet plans that are fully covered by the Affordable Connectivity Program — meaning most eligible households can now get high-speed internet without paying a dime.

- **Progress to date:** About 37,330 households in Rhode Island are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program, with more signing up every day. Households can check their eligibility, sign up, and find fully covered internet plans at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov).

Water: Currently, up to 10 million American households across the country connect to water through lead pipes and lack access to clean, safe drinking water. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law represents the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, including the first-ever dedicated federal funding to replace lead service lines and address dangerous PFAS chemicals.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$66 million is available in fiscal year 2022 to provide clean and safe water across the state. Of this funding, \$28.4 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$18 million for safe drinking water investments that can also support lead pipe replacement in fiscal year 2022.

Public Transit: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history. Based on formula funding alone, Rhode Island would expect to receive more than \$292 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the state.¹ This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in Rhode Island, where non-white households are 2.4 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 27.2% of transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Rhode Island has been allocated \$56 million to improve public transportation options across the state in fiscal year 2022.

Electric Vehicle Charging: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$7.5 billion to build the first-ever national network of electric vehicle chargers in the United States and

¹ Transit formula funding amounts are subject to changes resulting from the 2020 census or from annual transit service data reported to FTA's National Transit Database.

is a critical element of President Biden's plan to address the climate crisis and support domestic manufacturing jobs. Through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program alone, Rhode Island should expect to receive more than \$23 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Rhode Island has been allocated \$3 million in 2022, pending the approval of the state's Electric Vehicle Charging Plan.

Clean Energy & Power: Power outages cost the U.S. economy more than \$70 billion annually. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to upgrade our power infrastructure by making the grid more resilient and building thousands of miles of new transmission lines to deliver clean, affordable electricity. The law also makes a historic investment in clean energy technologies like advanced nuclear, clean hydrogen, and carbon capture, as well as a historic \$3.5 billion investment in weatherization to improve energy efficiency of homes and lower energy costs for impacted households by \$372 per year.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$15 million has been allocated to Rhode Island in 2022 for weatherization and \$1.7 million to help prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient in 2022. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months.

Airports & Ports: According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide. Our ports and waterways are in need of repair and reimagination too. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$17 billion in port infrastructure and \$25 billion in airports to strengthen our supply chains, address maintenance backlogs, and reduce congestion and emissions near ports and airports – ultimately helping our country move goods and people more quickly and at lower cost.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Rhode Island has received more than \$9 million in 2022 for airports.

Resilience: Millions of Americans feel the effects of climate change and extreme weather every day. More frequent hurricanes, wildfires, heat waves, floods, unprecedented power outages, and persistent droughts devastate our communities and threaten our infrastructure. In the last decade, Rhode Island has experienced 10 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$1 billion in damages. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to bolster our resilience against pressing challenges like impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, and other hazards like cyberattacks.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$33 million has been allocated to Rhode Island for infrastructure resilience in 2022.

Legacy Pollution Cleanup: Across the country, thousands of former industrial, chemical, and energy sites emit harmful pollutants into surrounding communities. These sites pose harms to health, welfare, and economic prosperity — and disproportionately impact communities of color: 26% of Black Americans and 29% of Hispanic Americans live within 3 miles of a Superfund site, a higher percentage than for Americans overall. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will deliver the largest investment in tackling legacy pollution in American history by cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mines, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells.

For more information, click [here](#) to see a map of funding and announced projects in your community through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

RHODE ISLAND PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Resilience Project Spotlight

Deep Pond and School House Pond Watershed

Overview: The Department of Agriculture awarded \$14 million to projects aiming to address erosion control, water quality, and needed habitat improvement to the Deep Pond and School House Pond watershed in Charlestown, Rhode Island.

See [here](#) for the full list of Natural Resources and Conservation Service projects announced earlier this year.